

HUNTER EDUCATION

newsletter

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HUNTER EDUCATION
THE NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

■ May 2011

Coordinator's Comments

Happy spring, well, I hope it's spring; it's been a long winter for all of us! We are well into another busy year of hunter education - many, many thanks for what you do to make this program a great success!

Thank you to all that attended the workshops and the annual conference, it's been another great year working with all of you. We experienced great attendance at all of our events this past year, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules. We did cancel our workshop in Williston due to weather, but I still want to get up there yet this summer. I will be attending the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) conference in June and hope to come back with some good information to pass on to you.

We continue to improve on an already successful program and if you have any good ideas that can be passed on to other instructors, please let me know. We owe that to the students who expect a quality experience and for the future of hunting - passing on the heritage.

Again, thank you for all that you do, you are the reason for our success and you do make a difference.

Have a great summer, enjoy the outdoors and be safe!

Service Awards and Instructors of the Year

Congratulations to all that received service awards, it's a small token of our appreciation in recognition of your commitment to hunting safety and ethics. Thank you for your dedicated service, we couldn't do it without you!

HE Course Materials Revision

The student manual, instructor spiral bound manual and instructor guide are out in the field. We have included a "CHANGE NOTICE" in this packet that you need to review and make the changes to your instructor guide. We do believe, from the feedback that was received from the instructor workshops, that we have a student manual that will serve us well for years to come. If you have comments on any of the course material, please contact me! We don't anticipate major changes, but we can and will edit the text between printings if there is enough reason.

Student registration cards no longer require a Social Security Number (SSN). You will notice the next time you receive registration guides that there is no space for the SSN. As we update our website, those changes will be reflected there as well. You still need a SSN when purchasing a license.

*"If you do not raise your eyes you will think
that you are at the highest point."* — Antonio Porchia

In This Issue:

- 1 Coordinator's Comments
Service Awards and
Instructors of the Year
HE Course Materials
Revision
- 2 2010 Hunting Incidents
Online Study Guide
Training Aids
Bowhunter Education
- 3 Home Study Online
Online Instructor
Training Course
Useful Websites
ND State Fair
- ND Wildlife Federation's
Youth Conservation Camp
Principles of Learning
Methods
Instructor's Creed
- 4 Other Notes
Event Calendar



2010 Hunting Incidents

We've included a few documents that cover the 2010 hunting related incidents, as well as a comparison to past years and hunting related incident summaries from the original reports. Use this information in your classroom to highlight safety and gun handling. If you are wondering what topics to emphasize to your students, note that over 80% of incidents (2007-2010) were caused by four (4) major factors: **Careless Handling; Victim Out of Sight; Swinging On Game and Discharge In/Around A Vehicle.**

FREE Online Study Guide – www.huntercourse.com

Initial feedback from our online study guide is very encouraging, over 3,000 visitors in 2010 and a 20% increase within the first three months of 2011. Some of our instructors have commented that this site is “outstanding”, a very useful tool and well used by students and instructors.

The website name has changed from **HunterExam.com** to **HUNTERcourse.com**; however the material is the same. There is a direct link on our website in the Education/Outreach section. This is a **FREE** service; please encourage your students to use this site. If you have students that are struggling with a topic, they can study at home at any time they choose.

Training Aids

You will find included in this mailing the reprinted **Wildlife Management Vocabulary, Study Worksheet and Crossword Puzzle**. There were some issues with the crossword puzzle that we have wanted to change for some time and since we have recently received comments from a few instructors on this, we made the changes. This material will be included in your course materials, but you can make copies as required.

If you need copies of “Opportunity For All” or “Chain of Respect”, narrated by Shane Mahoney, contact us for copies of these DVDs. For those of you who have used or would like to use the DVD, “Shoot, Don’t Shoot” from Alan Madison Productions, let us know or go to www.alanmadison.com.

Bowhunter Education

We are working with the ND Bowhunters Association to develop a process to certify additional Bowhunter education instructors. Since a BowEd certificate is not required, it's more difficult to build this program, but there is a growing interest in NASP and we anticipate a growth in bowhunting in the coming years. Educating our youth to the ethical and safe way to hunt is extremely important. Discussion has taken place about having an online course (South Dakota), this is a good option, but then we would have to be able to offer a Field Day to complete certification. We need to be out ahead of the game and have a plan for this with more instructors and classes.

Home Study (On-line Option)

We are experiencing great success with our online Home Study course, so we encourage you to consider scheduling and conducting more of them. This option is great for older students and those that have scheduling conflicts with our traditional course. Gun handling experience is not compromised, especially when you offer an “optional” session for this purpose. You must determine the experience level of the class and spend some of the time in the two class sessions on gun handling. Emphasize to the students that they are responsible for gun handling and the fact that they will be tested on handling of a firearm.

For those instructors that have not yet conducted one, please contact us for some information that will guide you through the process. If you are comfortable with the internet, it's just a matter of covering the required material in the two (2) classroom sessions. We highly recommend offering an optional hands-on session for those students who want it. Take a look at the course; it's on the IHEA website. The IHEA is in the process of gathering material to update the online course, adding material and enhancing the site with photos and video.

Another comment on the online “home study” option – the Department does not support a “total” online course! There must be face-to-face contact with an instructor or we have no idea how well the student handles a firearm. There are some instructors that don't feel comfortable or believe that the online course is a viable option, but it has proven to be an effective and successful course. Bottom line is this, we do offer it and it was passed in the 2009 legislative session, making it a mandated course. It is very beneficial to students that have difficult work schedules to be able to become certified and it supports our efforts in recruiting hunters.

On-line Instructor Training Course

The online instructor training course is now a requirement for all new instructors and we highly encourage ALL instructors to take the course. You can be reimbursed the \$25 fee by submitting the “invoice”, a copy of your completion certificate and an IRS Substitute Form W-9 to our office. There is a lot of good information about course set-up and presentation skills.

Useful Websites

- @ **International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) website** – www.ihea.com
Instructor resources, vendor discounts and a monthly auction item.
Username: **instructor** Password: **gohunt**
- @ **National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF)** – www.nssf.org
- @ **Tread Lightly campaign** – www.treadlightly.org
- @ **The Newsletter** is located on the NDGF website, www.gf.nd.gov in the instructor log-in tab
Username: **!huntered** Password: **Enroll1**
- @ **HUNTERcourse.com** – **FREE online study guide** – www.huntercourse.com
(formerly “HunterExam.com”)

The NDGF website will be looking different in the near future and we hope to add more “instructor useful” information to the instructor log-in section, e.g. downloadable forms, etc. We are also going to be using a different instructor database application, a web-based app that will allow us to do more with instructor data. We’ve had requests for an instructor directory and contact information; this app will allow us to provide more of this type information.

2011 North Dakota State Fair

Minot, July 22-30, 2011. This is a lot of fun and worth your time if you can work it out with your busy schedules. You can work at the airgun shooting range, archery range, fishing pond or fur harvester booth. Come on up and work a day or two at the fair. If you work 2 days, we will pay for lodging at the Holiday Inn.

North Dakota Wildlife Federation’s Youth Conservation Camp

The NDWF will be sponsoring a 2011 Youth Conservation Camp. The camp will be held for children ages 12-15, from August 7-13 at the Camp of the Cross, nine miles SW of Garrison. Scheduled activities include archery, fishing, orienteering, forestry, outdoor survival and so much more.

For more information or to receive a brochure, contact the NDWF office at 1-888-827-2557.

Principles of Learning Methods

Students Remember:

- 10% of what they **READ**
- 20% of what they **HEAR**
- 30% of what they **SEE**
- 50% of what they **HEAR & SEE**
- 70% of what they **SAY**
- 90% of what they **SAY as they DO!**

The Instructor’s Creed

As a certified instructor, I understand:

- If students are not involved, I have not taught.
- Most human beings are poor speakers and poor listeners;
I have a challenge.
- Just talking is the poorest teaching method.
- It is easier to teach if you get students involved.
- The bottom line is what they learn; not what I teach.
- The future of hunting depends on effective hunter education.



HUNTER EDUCATION
TELEPHONE NUMBERS

For Class Supplies: 1-800-421-8358
For Procedure and Policy Questions: 1-701-328-6316

INSTRUCTOR'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM:

If you move, please be sure to notify us. Email changes to sthompso@nd.gov or complete the attached form and mail to:

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Hunter Education

100 North Bismarck Expressway

Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone No.: _____



(Detach and return)



Other Notes

Course schedules. Be planning ahead for next year. We need your course schedules by Dec 31; we get numerous phone calls asking about when/where the courses are and how to enroll.

On-line enrollment is *highly encouraged*; online enrollment makes the enrollment process quick and easy, much more so than making a phone call. One of the issues that came out of the 2009 legislative session is that we must make every effort to make our course available to the public and offering online enrollment is one of the best ways to do that. The public is using more technology every day and we need to keep up with them! Potential students are missing out on the course by us not posting your course (for a minimum of 2 weeks) on our website and offering online enrollment.

Annual Workshop and Regional Workshop Dates. The annual conference and banquet is scheduled for February 11, 2012 in Bismarck. Dates and locations will be published in the near future for the workshops to be held in Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot and Dickinson in 2012.

NDHEA Instructor Fun Shoot, Zap Sportsman's Club, Zap, ND – August 6, 2011

Send me an email at jondhanson@nd.gov and you will be added to our HE Instructor distribution list. *I do receive some "undeliverable" messages back after sending out a message, if you have given me your email address and are not receiving information, call me and I'll check your address.*

The future of ND Hunter Education

- Continue to improve communication to instructors
- Instructor academy for in-service and new instructor training
- Revise instructor application process
- Revise instructor policy manual
- Standardize course materials and presentation
- Increase public access to the HE course
- Master Hunter Education Instructor program
- Regional Instructor Coordinators
- Instructor of the Year nomination process

Instructor Illness and Death. We ask that you please notify our office in the event of an instructor illness or death in your area. We extend our sincerest sympathies to the families of Michael "Mick" Miller, Buffalo; Richard Sauer, Carpio, and Gene Kouba, Bismarck.

EVENT CALENDAR

Annual Conference

February 11, 2012 @ Bismarck Ramkota

Regional Workshops

Fargo
Grand Forks
Minot
Dickinson

State Fair

July 22 – July 30, 2011 @ Minot

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!

The Hunter Education Newsletter is published quarterly by:

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

100 North Bismarck Expressway

Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

1-800-421-8358

web = gf.nd.gov

email: ndgf@nd.gov

Hunter Education Program

Jon Hanson, Hunter Education Coordinator



The NDGFD receives Federal financial assistance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the NDGFD joins the US Department of the Interior and its Bureaus in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex (in education programs or activities) and also religion for the NDGFD. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or you desire further information, please write to: ND Game and Fish Department, Attn: Chief Administrative Services, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095 or to: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Attn: Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP- 4020, Arlington, Virginia 22203. The TTY/TTD (Relay ND) number for the hearing or speech impaired is 1-800-366-6888.